


Borough of New Windsor



Annual Reports
OF
THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH,
THE HEALTH VISITOR
AND
THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1942



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Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health For the Year 1942

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report, as Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1942. Of necessity, it will be brief and confined to detailing the various Services available and measures in force in the Borough.

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—Table I gives a list of these. The cases of **Scarlet Fever** were, on the whole, of a mild type. Owing to war conditions and to the fact that so many parents are doing essential war work, many cases were sent to Isolation Hospitals which could, in other circumstances, have been kept at home. There were 8 cases of **Diphtheria**. Of these, 3 were of children and of these three, one had not been immunized and two had, but sufficient time had not elapsed for immunization to be effective. The remaining five were of adults, none of whom had been immunized.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—These cases were admitted to Windsor Hospital and were of non-residents.

Acute Polio-Myelitis.—This case was a girl, who was seen by me at School Medical Inspection, admitted at once to Maidenhead Isolation Hospital and then transferred to Headington Orthopædic Hospital.

Table II gives the age group of cases notified.

Tuberculosis.—The number of new cases is slightly less than in 1941. I would point out the mortality figures refer to deaths not only amongst the new cases for the year 1942, but of previous notifications.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.—I commenced the routine immunization in January, 1939, and so have completed four years. During the year under review the number of children under 5 who have completed the course was 520, and the number between 5—15 years of age was 426. It is estimated that as the treatment is not carried out under one year of age, and quite apart from those seen privately by their own doctor, 96% of the under-fives have been treated.

Two clinics are now held each month ; at the School Clinic and the Clewer Infant Welfare Centre, alternatively.

THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.—I would refer you to Miss McAllister's Report, as Health Visitor. Both Centres are doing excellent work and I would again express my appreciation of the splendid help given by the Voluntary Helpers. We owe a great debt of gratitude to them for the regular work they do so consistently. Of Miss McAllister's work there is no need for me to enlarge upon, as it is so well known.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.—These Clinics are held on the first and second Mondays in each month, at the Maternity Home and the School Clinic. The total number of attendances was 431 and the number of individual women 199. Cases which upon investigation require further treatment are referred to the Obstetric Department at Windsor Hospital. There was no case of Puerperal Fever of a Windsor resident.

WAR-TIME DAY NURSERIES.—(1) **Thames Street.** The average attendance is from 25—30. The mid-day meal is obtained from the British Restaurant. (2) **The Lawns, Clewer,** has an average attendance of 40—45.

The health of the children has been excellent, and I would like to express my appreciation of the care and devotion of the staff at both Nurseries. Any child who upon arrival appears to be unwell is isolated and has medical attention.

THE BRITISH RESTAURANT has had a very satisfactory year of work. The food is excellent. The daily average of meals served is 240 and about 2 dozen take their dinners home. In the summer months tea is obtainable. The financial position is satisfactory.

DINNERS AT SCHOOLS.—The number of school-children including evacuees, is approximately 2,821. The daily number of dinners is 1,000.

MILK IN SCHOOLS.—There are 2,245 children taking advantage of this scheme. The milk is pasteurized.

EMERGENCY SANATORIUM, 95, Alma Road.—The number of individual children admitted during the year was 260. Excellent work has been done by the Matron (Miss Howes) and her Staff. Skin infections have been very prevalent, especially amongst the infants and toddlers and such cases require endless patience.

WATER SUPPLY.—Every month samples are submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. The reports have been extremely good.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1942.
(Other than Tuberculosis.)

TABLE I.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	41	29	—
Diphtheria	8	8	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	7	7	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Dysentery	3	3	—
Pneumonia	7	1	—
Acute Polio-Myelitis ...	1	1	—
Para-Typhoid	1	1	—

TABLE II.

AGE GROUPS OF THE NOTIFIED CASES.

<i>Disease</i>	Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	2	4	3	27	2	1	—	1	1	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	3	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	1	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	4	—
Acute Polio- Myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE III.
TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1942.

<i>Age Periods</i>		<i>New Cases.</i>				<i>Deaths.</i>			
		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years	...	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	—
15 years	...	4	6	—	1	1	2	1	—
25 years	...	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
35 years	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 years	...	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
55 years	...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 plus	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	...	11	9	4	4	7	4	1	—

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DOUGLAS CROFTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of the Health Visitor For the Year 1942

TO THE MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I respectfully submit my Report upon the work done during the year 1942.

Notification has been received of 663 births during the past year, including 37 still-births. 386 of the notifications, including 28 still-births, were of births to families who were not residents of the town. These have been transferred to their own districts.

There are approximately 1396 children under 5 years of age resident in the Borough.

All evacuated children under school age of whom information has been received, have been visited and invited to attend at the Infant Welfare Centres.

During the year the following visits have been made :

To infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	1954
To children from 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	2457
Special visits	...	...	...	...	110
First visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	342
In connection with deaths of infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	20
In connection with still-births	...	...	...	...	10
To registered boarded-out children	...	...	...	...	50
In connection with immunization	...	...	...	...	69
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	5012
Visits to families (not included in total)	...	...	...	...	3718

THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

A meeting of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee is held quarterly, under the Chairmanship of Alderman Harris.

The assistance given by the voluntary helpers (thirteen in number at the present time), has always been of great value to the work of the Centres, but in these days, with the increase of attendances and greatly augmented work in the sale of foods department, it is difficult to express how much the Centres are indebted to these ladies for their regular hard work, without which it would be impossible to carry on the work in its present form.

There were 268 resident live births notified in the year; 255 infants under 1 year made their first attendance at the Centres, showing that 95% of the infants born in the Borough attended the Welfare Centres. Ten years ago the figure was 59.5%.

The following were the attendances at both Centres during the year, the figures for the previous year are given for comparison. The Centres were closed for some weeks in 1941, which would account for some increase in the total attendances, but the average attendances at the Windsor Centre has increased considerably.

		<i>Windsor.</i>		<i>Clewer.</i>	
		<i>1942</i>	<i>1941</i>	<i>1942</i>	<i>1941</i>
Infants under 1 year	...	2794	2462	...	2108
Children 1 to 5 years	...	2060	1231	...	994
Total attendance of Infants and Toddlers	...	4854	3693	...	3102
Average attendance per session	...	106	93	...	68
Attending for the first time :					
(a) Infants under 1 year...		165	178	...	90
(b) Toddlers	...	39	58	...	27

THE TODDLERS' CLINIC.

The special Clinic for Toddlers between the age of 2 years and School age is held at the Windsor Welfare Centre on the first Friday of each month, and at the Clewer Centre on the first Tuesday of each month. Each child is examined by the Medical Officer, whose notes on the child are subsequently passed on to the School Medical Department, when the child enters school.

Attendances at these Clinics : Windsor, 212 ; Clewer, 121. Total, 333.

The total attendance of Toddlers at the ordinary sessions : 3054.

FOOD AND DRIED MILK.

The work of the sales department at the Centres has continued to increase, as the following figures show.

Value of foods, etc., purchased for sale or free distribution :

				£	s.	d.
Year ending March, 1938	...	...	...	425	7	5
„ „ „ 1939	...	...	...	506	16	9
„ „ „ 1940	...	...	...	611	5	9
„ „ „ 1941	...	...	...	1027	7	7
March to December, 1941	...	...	...	1086	16	6
January to December, 1942	...	...	...	1611	19	5

Owing to a reduction in the amount allowed to the Centres of certain commodities, it has been necessary to place some articles on a system of rationing. On the whole, the supply of dried milks, etc., to the Centres has continued without interruption, in spite of war-time conditions.

THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic is held on the second Monday of each month at the Clinic, Victoria Street, Windsor, at 3 p.m. The attendances number 180 and 5 respectively. These figures do not include the numbers attending the Clinic at the Princess Christian's Maternity Home.

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN.

There are 6 children registered under the Children Acts, and 4 persons are registered as foster-parents. At the beginning of the year, there were 6 children registered and the names of 4 removed from the register. Fifty visits have been made in this connection and on every occasion conditions were found to be as satisfactory as can be expected under war-time conditions.

DIPHTHERIA PREVENTION.

The Clinic for immunization against Diphtheria of children under school age is held once a month at the Victoria Street Clinic. The numbers attending for immunization have been very satisfactory. During the year 446 children have received full immunization and 169 have received their first injection.

ADDITIONAL CLOTHING COUPONS.

The additional clothing coupons to expectant mothers are distributed from the Health Visitor's Office, 13, Park Street.

GOVERNMENT VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS.

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 2732, the vitamin supplements (Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices) are distributed at both the Infant Welfare Centres and also at the Ante-Natal Clinics for expectant Mothers.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. I. McALLISTER,

Health Visitor.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector For the Year 1942

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I respectfully submit for your consideration my Report upon the work done by my Department during the year 1942.

HOUSING.

During the year 95 houses were inspected for housing defects, either under the Housing Act or the Public Health Act. Notices were served for any defects found and in the great majority of cases these were remedied during the year.

OVERCROWDING.

Eight new cases of overcrowding came to the notice of the Department during the year. Of these, 4 were abated. Of the cases still on the-books, 10 were abated.

SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES.

530 sanitary defects and nuisances were discovered during the year. 223 informal and 11 formal notices were served requiring abatement of the defects or nuisances. At the end of the year 31 informal and 4 formal notices had not been complied with.

COMPLAINTS.

Three hundred and eight complaints were received during the year.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Slaughter House.—The number of inspections made to the Government Slaughter House was 705. Slaughtering is carried out each day of the week except Friday and Saturday, and has entailed many hours of work by your Inspectors after 5 p.m. and on Sundays.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was :

Bullocks	...	...	336	Sheep	...	...	6329
Heifers	...	...	443	Pigs	...	...	118
Bulls	...	...	16				
Cows	...	...	194			<i>Total</i>	8316
Calves	...	...	880				

The carcasses of 8 cows, 4 heifers and 2 bullocks affected with Generalized Tuberculosis were wholly condemned. Portions of carcasses of 59 cows, 34 heifers, 25 bullocks, 3 bulls and 2 pigs affected with Localised Tuberculosis were condemned.

The carcasses of 7 sheep, 1 bull, 1 calf and 1 pig were condemned for diseases other than tuberculosis.

Portions of carcasses or organs of 529 sheep, 64 cows, 104 heifers, 81 bullocks, 7 bulls, 5 pigs and 2 calves were condemned for diseased conditions other than tuberculosis.

The percentage of numbers of animals inspected affected with Tuberculosis was :

Bulls	...	18.8 per cent.	Pigs	...	1.7 per cent.
Bullocks	...	8.0 „ „	Sheep	...	<i>Nil</i>
Heifers	...	8.6 „ „	Calves	...	<i>Nil</i>
Cows	...	34.5 „ „			

Percentage of total animals inspected affected with disease : 11.3.

The weight of diseased meat condemned at the Slaughter-house was 8 tons 19 cwts. 3 qr. 7 lbs.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES, INCLUDING WHOLESALE MEAT STORES.

One thousand two hundred and fifty-two visits of inspection were made to these premises and the following carcasses of animals not slaughtered in the Borough were inspected at the Meat Depots:

Bullocks	...	...	12	Sheep	...	...	212
Heifers	...	...	105	Pigs	...	...	190
Cows	...	...	141				—
Calves	...	...	254	<i>Total</i>	...		917
Bulls	...	...	3				—

The carcasses of 1 cow and 1 calf were condemned because of diseased conditions other than Tuberculosis, 25lbs. of imported meat and 159lbs. of English meat were condemned because of unsound conditions. 217 tins corned beef, 24 tins corned pork and 22 tins lambs livers were also condemned, the weight being 14 cwts. 3 qrs. 14 lbs.

The total weight of meat condemned at the Depots was 1 ton 2 qrs.

At shops, a variety of food stuffs were condemned because of unfitness for human food. The weight of these articles was 5 tons 17 cwts. 5 lbs.

The total weight of unsound food dealt with during the year was 15 tons 17 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

One seizure of unsound meat took place during the year. The Council, after considering the facts, sent a letter of warning to the shopkeeper.

All the diseased or unsound meat from the Slaughter House and the wholesale meat stores, after being coloured with acid green, is collected by a Government contractor for utilisation for purposes other than human food. Other unsound foodstuffs are dealt with according to instructions issued by the Ministry of Food.

KNACKER'S YARD.

In September, a licence was granted for the use of the old slaughter-house in Goswell Lane as a knacker's yard. The premises are used solely for the purpose of the slaughter of animals for dog food, the meat all being disposed of from a shop in Oxford Road, Windsor. The licence was granted for six months. The number of inspections made was 75, and the number of animals slaughtered was 147. The business has been conducted satisfactorily to date.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following tables show the number of samples of Food taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, the results of such analysis and action taken :

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number Examined</i>				<i>Number Adulterated</i>			
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>In-formal</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>In-formal</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
Milk	26	3	—	29	1	—	—	1
Vinegar	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	1
Nut Chocolate ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Orange Squash ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Lime Juice Cordial	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Lime Juice	1	1	—	2	1	1	—	2
Lime Juice Flavour	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cocoa	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—
Coffee	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Coffee & Chicory ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Fish Paste	—	6	—	6	—	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Self-Raising Flour	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Do. containing Egg	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Yorkshire Pudding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mixture	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Egg. Subs. Powder	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sweetened Custard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Powder	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ginger Wine Ess'ce.	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Essence of Raspb'y	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Raspberry Jam ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Zahna	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Chocolate Fudge ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Rich Fruit Sauce...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tinned Soup	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Meat & Potato Pie	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Parsley, Thyme &	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lemon Stuffing	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Citric Acid	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Borax	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Bicarbonate Soda	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Aspirin Tablets ...	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	32	46	—	78	3	1	—	4

LIST OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Formal Informal Private</i>	<i>Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity</i>	<i>Observations</i>
188	Lime Juice	Formal	False description ...	Letter of warning sent.
189	Lime Juice	Informal	False description ...	Sample brought to office with a complaint. Sample No. 188 was purchased as a result.
209	Vinegar	Formal	50.5% deficient in acetic acid	Proceedings taken. Fined £10 and £5 12s. 6d. costs.
231	Milk ...	Formal	24.47% added water ... 10.33% deficient in fat	Proceedings taken. Dairyman charged roundsman with offence. Roundsman convicted and fined £5 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The following are registered under the various Orders and Regulations :

Retail Purveyors of Milk	23
Dairymen	10
Cowkeepers	4

The number of cows kept in the district is about 100 ; the various premises have been regularly inspected.

Six Dairymen are licensed to sell Tuberculin-tested milk, and two to sell Pasteurised milk.

In April, legal proceedings were taken against a dairyman for failing to properly cleanse a milk bottle. The case was dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act on payment of £3 12s. 0d. costs.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Common Lodging Houses have been regularly inspected. They have been satisfactorily kept and have given no cause for complaint during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the year, 1,115 visits were made to various premises for the purpose of destroying rats and mice. The number of rats found dead was 395 ; the number caught in traps was 172.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

One hundred and seventy-eight inspections were made for the purposes of this Act ; the requirements of the Act as to Marking, etc., have been well observed.

SHOPS ACTS.

During the year, 196 inspections were made.

DISINFECTION.

In infectious cases, bedding and clothing are removed to the Steam Disinfector at Dedworth. The rooms are sprayed and fumigated. During the year disinfections were as follows :

Articles of bedding and clothing disinfected	5038
Articles of bedding and clothing destroyed	418
Rooms disinfected	104

BED BUGS.

The eradication of bed bugs during the warm months takes a great deal of time. During the year the following work was carried out :

Council Houses found to be infested	7
Council Houses disinfecting	7
Other Houses found to be infested	36
Other Houses disinfecting	36

In the 7 Council houses 15 rooms were affected, and in the 36 other houses 87 rooms.

The method adopted for freeing houses from bed bugs is to spray with an insecticide ; two sprayings with an interval of eight days between being the usual process. In bad infestations, one of the proprietary fumigating blocks, used in conjunction with an insecticide, has given good results. The work is carried out by the department. The fumigating blocks used are Cimex, the principal insecticide used is Zaldecide.

OTHER PESTS.

The department was called upon to help in the destruction of other pests, as under :

Ants	5	Fleas	7
Wasps	41	Moths	2
Beetles	42		

FOOD CONTROL.

The work as Enforcement Inspector to the Food Control Committee has been considerable ; 609 inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Housing Act Inspections	6
Housing Act Re-Inspections	23
Overcrowding Inspections	12
Public Health Act Inspections (Housing)	89
Public Health Act Re-Inspections (Housing)	246
Drain Tests and Inspections	101
Nuisance Inspections	301
Nuisance Re-Inspections	219
Infectious Disease cases investigated	52
Visits <i>re</i> Disinfection	75
Food Premises, Stalls, etc., inspected	1252
Dairy, Cowshed and Milkshop Inspections	91
Factories and Workshops inspected... ..	24

Shops Acts Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	196
Common Lodging House Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	14
Merchandise Marks Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	178
Visits <i>re</i> Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	1115
Piggery Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	8
Food Control Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	609
Air Raid Shelter Inspections...	...	...	...	...	...	510
Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	212
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	178
Slaughter House Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	705
Inspections, Rent Restrictions Acts	...	...	...	...	...	54
Knacker's Yard Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	75
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	6345

RENT RESTRICTIONS ACTS.

Complaints received and actions taken are set out below :—

No.			
1	35/- per wk.	3 rooms Furnished	After informal action owner reduced rent by 10/- per week and refunded amount overpaid.
2	14/- per wk.	2 rooms Unfurnished	After informal action rent was reduced to 10/- per week.
3	12/- per wk.	House consisting of 5 rooms unfurnished.	Unfounded.
4	12/10 per wk.	House consisting of 5 rooms unfurnished.	After informal action owner agreed to refund 1/2 per week for 2 years. Owner then gave proper notice under the Acts to the tenant and the rent was correctly fixed at 12s. per week.
5	14/6 per wk.	1 room unfurnished.	Communicated with landlord but, before any arrangements could be made for reduction, tenant quitted the room on her own account.
6	25/- per wk.	House consisting of 5 rooms unfurnished.	After informal action rent was reduced to 17/9 per week and the amount paid in excess refunded.
7	19/- per wk.	House consisting of 6 rooms unfurnished.	Communications have been made with owner to the effect that 1/6 per wk. is being charged in excess of the permitted rent. Tenant has been advised to stop paying rent until she has recovered that 1/6 for 104 weeks and then only to pay the proper rent of 17/6 per week.
8	12/6 per wk.	2 rooms Unfurnished.	Unfounded.
9	17/6 per wk.	2 rooms Unfurnished.	After informal action landlord agreed to the tenant not paying any more rent until she had recovered the amount overpaid, that being difference between 15/- and 17/6 for the time she had been in the house.
10	25/- per wk.	House consisting of 5 rooms unfurnished.	After informal action landlord reduced rent by 7/6 per week and refunded amount overpaid.

STAFF.

In June, the Additional Inspector, Mr. Bryan Gilford, vacated his position to take up an appointment at Pontypool. The temporary position was advertised and, as no suitable candidates were forthcoming, the Ministry of Health were asked to sanction the appointment of a second permanent Additional Inspector. The Ministry agreed, and in response to the amended advertisement several excellent applications were received. The Council appointed Mr. Frank Barker, of Norwich, to the post. Mr. Barker took up his duties on the 23rd October, and since his appointment has given every satisfaction.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F. ARNOLD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.